



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

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FINAL AGENDA
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL
State Capitol, Room 172
September 27-28, 2017

NOTE: AGENDA ITEM TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE--SOME ITEMS MAY TAKE MORE OR LESS TIME THAN IS ALLOTTED.

Wednesday September 27, 2017

- 10:00 a.m. Call to Order - Roll Call
Sen. Chas Vincent, chair
- 10:05 p.m. Administrative matters--Mr. Kolman (Tab 1)
- Budget review
 - Introduction of new staff
 - Adoption of EQC minutes from [June 29](#), [June 30](#), and [July 12](#), 2017
- 10:10 a.m. Water Policy Interim Committee update--Mr. Mohr
- 10:15 a.m. Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee update--Mr. Graff
- 10:20 a.m. State Parks program evaluation (Tab 2 [A](#), [B](#))
- Overview--Ms. Stockwell
 - Performance Audit update--Will Soller, LAD
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 11:30 a.m. Chronic wasting disease (Tab 3 [A](#), [B](#))
- Director Martha Williams, DFWP
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch

- 1:00 p.m. Agency budget updates
- Director John Tubbs, DNRC
 - Director Tom Livers, DEQ
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 1:30 p.m. Aquatic Invasive Species Annual Reports (Tab 4 [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), [D](#))
- Overview--Ms. Stockwell
 - Director Martha Williams, AIS Bureau Chief Tom Woolf, DFWP
 - DNRC and Upper Columbia Conservation Commission--
Stephanie Hester
 - Invasive Species Council--Chair Bryce Christiaens, Missoula
County weed district manager
 - Department of Transportation--Duane Williams, Motor Carrier
Services Administrator
 - Department of Agriculture--Dave Burch, Weed Program
manager
 - Public Comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 2:30 p.m. Hard rock mining program evaluation ([Tab 5](#))
- Overview--Mr. Kolman
 - Chris Dorrington, administrator Air, Energy & Mining Division,
DEQ
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 3:00 p.m. BREAK
- 3:15 p.m. MSU lab study, HB 661 (2017)
- Staff update - Shauna Albrecht, LFD
 - EQC member updates--Reps. Hamlett, Rep. White
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 3:30 p.m. Sage Grouse
- Conservation Program update, landowner liability--Ms.
Stockwell
 - DFWP population report--Director Martha Williams
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any

- 4:00 p.m. Statutory administrative rule review ([Tab 6](#))
- Mr. Walker
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 4:15 p.m. Review rule for dog training in upland game bird nesting areas ([Tab 7](#))
- Mr. Walker
 - Director Martha Williams, DFWP
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 5:15 p.m. DEQ sanitation review procedures
- Tim Davis, administrator, Water Quality Division, DEQ
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 5:30 p.m. Public comment on any matter not contained in this agenda and that is within the jurisdiction of the EQC.

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Thursday September 28, 2017

- 8:00 a.m. Grizzly bear delisting (Tab 8 [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), [D](#), [E](#), [F](#))
- Director Martha Williams, DFWP
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Jodi L. Bush, office supervisor, Montana State Ecological Services Office, USFWS
 - Hilary Cooley, bear recovery coordinator, USFWS
 - Public comment
 - EQC review and discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 8:30 a.m. USFWS activity in Montana
- Jodi L. Bush, office supervisor Montana State Ecological Services Office, USFWS
 - Public comment
 - EQC review and discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 9:00 a.m. Fire and water supply update
- Sue Clark, acting Forestry Division administrator, DNRC
 - Mike DeGrosky, chief, Fire & Aviation Management Bureau
 - Ann Schwend, DNRC water resource planner
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any

- 9:30 a.m. BREAK
- 9:45 a.m. Fire-related study topics (Tab 9 [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), [D](#), [E](#), [F](#))
- *Update on Good Neighbor Policy*
 - Sue Clark, acting Forestry Division administrator, DNRC
 - Bill Avey, supervisor, Helena and Lewis and Clark National Forests
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
 - *Review of 2007-08 Fire Suppression Committee--Ms. Kurtz*
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
 - *Overview of fire suppression fees--Ms. Kurtz*
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 11:00 a.m. Natural resource data collection and reporting (Tab 10 [A](#), [B](#))
- Overview--Mr. Kolman
 - *Study of Natural Heritage Program*
 - Jennie Stapp, state librarian
 - Bryce Maxell, program coordinator
 - User panel
 - Kristi Ponozzo, public policy director DEQ
 - Bill Avey, supervisor, Helena and Lewis and Clark National Forests
 - Dave Burch, Weed Program manager, Department of Agriculture
 - John Beaver, senior biologist, project manager, WESTECH Environmental Services.
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Natural resource data collection and reporting (continued)
- *Study creating report on state of natural resources*
 - Overview--Mr. Kolman
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study

- 2:00 p.m. Bison and Brucellosis topics (Tab 11 [A](#), [B](#))
- *Interagency Bison Management Plan update*
 - Sam Sheppard, supervisor, DFWP Region 3
 - Marty Zaluski, state veterinarian
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions and discussion
 - Committee action, if any
 - *Proposed brucellosis research letter*
 - Sen. Phillips
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions and discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 3:00 p.m. Adoption of Final Work Plan ([Tab 12](#))
- EQC review and discussion
 - Public comment
 - Adoption of work plan
- 3:15 p.m. Review proposed topics for next EQC meeting
- 3:30 p.m. Public comment on any matter not contained in this agenda and that is within the jurisdiction of the EQC
- Other Business
 Instructions to Staff
- 3:45 p.m. Adjourn

Please note:

- All meeting materials are available on the EQC website at <http://leg.mt.gov/eqc>
- Public comment provided in person at a committee meeting is a public record that is videotaped, archived, and available on the Internet. Public comment submitted in writing at a committee meeting is a public record that will be posted to the legislative website as part of the minutes log for the committee meeting.
- The Montana Legislative Services Division will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this public meeting. For questions about accessibility or to request accommodations, please contact Lenore Adams at 406-444-4456 or leadams@mt.gov as soon as possible before the meeting date.

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